

**From:** Josh Wurzel  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/14/01 1:14am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs,

As a user of an alternative platform, as an investor, as an educated student, and as a republican, I can not agree with Microsoft's settlement. This concession by the world's largest software company is clear an attempt to 1) look generous to the public 2) solve a major problem for the company and 3) continue to do business as usual.

The fact of the matter is that Microsoft's presence and tactics hurt the economy far more than the help it, and this will not change if this settlement goes through. In fact, Microsoft will become even more bold than it did after the trial a few years ago. Nothing will stop them from using their market share to dominate every conceivable market.

People do not buy windows because they want to. People buy windows (and other microsoft products) because "everyone else uses them". And people do not use these products for their quality, they use them because Microsoft forces vendors to cater to their demands, bundling their products and threatening retribution if strict rules are not followed.

It takes no psychic to see where Microsoft is going with its current technologies. Do you really think Microsoft would launch subscription-based software if it did not have a monopoly? Now, it can FORCE people to use its operating system, and to repeatedly pay for the privilege of doing so. This is WRONG, in the very truest sense of the word.

With .net in the near future, Microsoft is going to be in a position to virtually control the internet. How much more grabs for power will it take before something is done to stop them? How long before Bill Gates can threaten to take down the entire world wide web if billions in ransom are not paid? The idea seems far-fetched now, but it didn't take much threatening from Microsoft to get a small city in Virginia to cough up nearly a million dollars. And even if it is un-realistic to assume that Bill Gates is involved in some world-domination scheme, the fact is that his company puts him in a position to go through with it, if he should ever want to. We can't allow companies to have this much control over the population.

Please see Microsoft's offer for what it is: a pathetic attempt to ingratiate itself to the world while offering no real solution for its behavior.

Thank you,

Josh Wurzel

Bring MATLAB to OS X for Macintosh! Sign the petition!  
<http://www.PetitionOnline.com/matlabx/petition.html>